(b) if so, whether he has asked the department and the Ministry to evolve policy measures so that FDI in R and D could be incentivised;

(c) if so, to what extent the Prime Minister's directive has been considered by both the department and the Ministry; and

(d) what steps are being taken to implement this directive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) Government reviews Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy from time to time R and D Investment is one of the potential thrust areas identified. Promoting FDI in specific thrust areas would also need to be in consonance with Government's overall policies including that relating to taxation, and overall economic development.

Contravention of Officials Language Act

†2190. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for contravention of the Official Language Act by the Unit Trust of India whereas as per the Official Language Act there is a provision to bring out all the formats bilingually by all the offices;

(b) whether the Delhi based chief of the Trust has compelled a senior citizen to make corespondence in English alone regarding which the Ministry has been informed and what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of the steps likely to be taken to do away with the contravention of rules and ignoration of official duties by the Unit Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI) which manages the assured return schemes directly handles only its fund management function. Hence very few circulars are issued by SUUTI. Instructions have been reiterated to all concerned to ensure strict compliance and a senior official has been entrusted with the tast of monitoring total compliance.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Technology upgradation in plantation sector

2191. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need to go in for technology upgradation in the plantation sector to promote value addition, quality upgradation as well as exports; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for waiver of important duties on essential machinery for such a technological upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has already reduced customs duty on 20 specified items of machinery for the plantation sector to 5% with Nil additional duty of customs (CVD) and Nil special additional duty of customs (SAD).

DCA's directives to autonomous institutes

2192. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DCA has the power to issue directives to autonomous institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the DCA is even issuing such orders on purely executive action like transfer and postings; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Sections 35 of both the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959 and the Company Secretaries Act, 1980 empower the Government to issue such directions to the councils of Institute of Cost and Works Accountants and Institute of Company Secretaries of India respectively, as in the opinion of the Central Government are conducive to the fulfillment of the objects of the Act. Directions issued have been for the purposes stated in law.